

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action dated April 17, 2008. *This amendment should be entered because it adds the subject matter of dependent claim 24 to claim 1 – thus, no new issues have been raised.*

Claim 1 (previous claim 24) stands rejected under Section 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Tsumura. This Section 103(a) rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 requires that a shape of a refractive index ellipsoid of the medium changes from substantially isotropic to substantially anisotropic, or vice versa, when the switching elements are changed from an OFF state to an ON state. For example non-limiting support, see the instant specification at Fig. 10; pg. 56, lines 3-25; and pg. 57, last paragraph. As shown in Fig. 10 and explained on pages 56-57, an IPS type LCD (such as Tsumura) fails to disclose or suggest the above feature of claim 1. In an IPS type of LCD such as Tsumura (and Okishiro), the shape of the refractive index ellipsoid does not change from a TFT off state to a TFT on state (e.g., see the instant application at Fig. 10; pg. 56, lines 3-25; and pg. 57, last paragraph). Thus, Tsumura (and Okishiro) fail to disclose or suggest this feature of claim 1.

As stated in lines 1-11 on page 13 of the instant specification, the following problem is solved:

“the display device disclosed in the foregoing publication needs to be driven by a high drive voltage. Therefore, this display device cannot be driven by a TFT (thin film transistor, switching element) structure (circuit structure including TFT) of a conventional liquid crystal display device. More specifically, to drive a display device using the Kerr effect disclosed in the foregoing patent publication, a circuit suitable for high voltage driving is required, and the circuit

also needs to be compatible with a TFT of a conventional liquid crystal display device.”

(Specification at page 13, lines 1-11.) At the time of filing, this problem was not known in the art, and certainly is not present in the cited art. Tsumura and Okishiro do not relate to a medium which changes in a degree of optical anisotropy in response to application of an electric field, and therefore do not have such a problem that “a display device using the Kerr effect needs to be drive by a high drive voltage.” It is clear from line 15 on page 54, to line 9 on page 55, and from line 3 on page 56 to line 3 on page 57, and Fig. 10, of the instant specification , that Tsumura and Okishiro are not techniques that use a medium which changes in a degree of optical anisotropy in response to application of an electric field.

Additionally, claim 1 requires that a degree of optical anisotropy in the medium changing in response to application of electric field. Tsumura and Okishiro fail to disclose or suggest this. Tsumura relates to a conventional IPS type LCD. Thus, Tsumura fails to disclose or suggest a display having a medium (e.g., LC layer) which is provided such that a degree of optical anisotropy in the medium changes in response to application of electric field. Moreover, there is no logical reason (or any reason in Tsumura or Okishiro) why one of ordinary skill in the art would have ever modified Tsumura’s IPS type LCD to have the medium called for in claim 1 – and there is no logical rationale for such a modification set forth in the Office Action.

It is respectfully requested that all rejections be withdrawn. All claims are in condition for allowance.

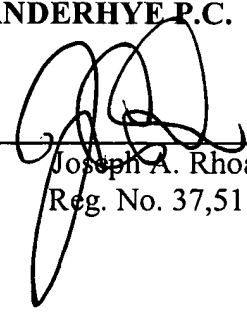
MIYACHI ET AL.

Appl. No. 10/582,998

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: _____


Joseph A. Rhoa
Reg. No. 37,515

JAR:caj

901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor

Arlington, VA 22203-1808

Telephone: (703) 816-4000

Facsimile: (703) 816-4100